

Grant Services for Illinois Heartland Library System

**FY23
REPORT**

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Grant Readiness

Master plan to get IHLS grant ready: finding good-fit funders, compiling important documents, creating power prospectus, etc.

ELIGIBILITY

- ISL grants
- Federal grants

Fiscal Sponsorship

- IHLS is ineligible for 501(c)3 status as a quasi-governmental organization

Possible Sponsors

- ILA Fund for Illinois Libraries
 - only if grant funds are distributed as a donation

Private Funders

- Foundations that want to support libraries
- Foundations serving as the charity arm of larger corporations

VISION

IHLS programs/ideas that will entice grant makers to provide funding

Programming

- Public Outreach – working with members and patrons
- Partnerships – what orgs naturally fit with IHLS program ideas

Access

- Unserved patrons – Library Link

Innovation

- Technology
- Equipment

Grant Seeking

Priorities for FY23: Mobile Memory Lab, Library Link, Schools in SHARE
Other project ideas: Library of Things, AMH, Discovery Layer or Electronic databases for SHARE

4

funding requests
submitted



IL HUMANITIES

Mobile Memory Lab
CMC

Good Fit Funders

- Ameren Cares
- Walmart Foundation

Worth a Try

- Carroll J. Haas Foundtion
- Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation

1

grant awarded

\$4,000

Mobile Memory Lab



One year pilot project working
with three member libraries to
hold Digitization Day events

Benefits

- New partner – increases IHLS visibility
- More competitive – positions IHLS to apply for larger federal grants to expand project

Member Benefits

Finding 'good fit' funders focused on libraries, education, technology, etc.

RESEARCH

Finding opportunities for IHLS and members

Subscription Databases

- Grant Station
- Grant Gopher

Free Resources

- Philanthropy News Digest – RFPs
- Demco – Grants for Libraries
- Grants.gov
- ALA Grant Announcements

Looking Local

- Illinois State Library – LSTA grants
- Community Foundations

75+

grant opportunities found and provided for members

Highlights

- Mary Heath Foundation
- We Need Diverse Books
- IL Humanities – Activate History Micro Grants
- T-Mobile Hometown Grants

Year 2

- Provide quick grant tips to be used in IHLS newsletter or on social media
- Continue to find opportunities with simple application requirements

Moving Forward

How can IHLS be more successful grant-seekers in FY2024?
Can we double the number of funding requests submitted?

PARTNERS

Who can IHLS partner with to increase grant revenue?

Member Library Friends Groups

- region – specific
- member focused



Historical Societies

- CMC projects

Out of the Box Ideas

- Soliciting donations from the public/crowdfunding?
- IHLS Foundation or Friends group to benefit member libraries?

Prepare for Federal Applications



NHPRC

- Public Engagement with Historical Records
- Should be announced in June
- between \$50,000 – \$100,000

NEH

Humanities Collections & Reference Resources – in 2024
(and keeping an eye out for other opportunities)

IHLG